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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**CALIFORNIA RECEIVES \$4.3 MILLION IN FEDERAL FUNDS FOR
LOW-INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

SACRAMENTO, CA – Department of Community Services and Development (CSD) Director Lloyd Throne announced today that California has received an additional \$4.3 million in emergency contingency funds through the federal government's Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP). These funds are designed to help low-income households meet their home energy costs. The release of these funds brings the State's federal fiscal year 2008 allocation to roughly \$102.2 million.

"This additional federal aid will allow us to provide much needed assistance to roughly 7,000 more low-income Californians who continue to struggle in a slumping economy with record high energy prices, unemployment and home foreclosures," said Mr. Throne.

CSD administers LIHEAP through a statewide network of local community-based service providers to help low-income households pay their utility bills, respond to energy-related crises, educate clients about energy conservation measures, and provide no-cost weatherization services such as attic insulation, weather-stripping, and minor housing repairs.

Priority for LIHEAP assistance is given to households with the highest energy burden in relationship to household income, while taking into consideration vulnerable populations such as the elderly, disabled and families with young children.

For more information or to apply for assistance, log on to www.csd.ca.gov or call toll-free 1-866-675-6623 for a service provider in your area.

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